

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated July 24, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 24, 2006. The Examiner stated in the Restriction Requirement that claims 1-29 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Please note that the Applicant filed a Preliminary Amendment on December 17, 2004, which was timely received by the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, canceling claims 1-29 and adding new claims 30-57. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 30-57 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 30-57 are subject to the restriction and/or election requirement. Claims 31-41, 43-49, 51-55 and 57 have been amended to correct dependency. Claims 30, 42, 50 and 56 have been amended to more clearly recite the invention. New claim 58 has been added. The Applicant has amended the specification to correct minor clerical errors. The Applicant submits that the amendments do not add any new subject matter.

Applicant is required to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. According to the Examiner, none of the claims is currently generic. Reconsideration of the restriction requirement is requested for reasons presented below.

Restriction to one of the following species was required under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- A) Species I of Figure 1a,
- B) Species II of Figure 2, or
- C) Species III of Figure 3.

The Applicant elects Species III, Figure 3, with traverse. Claims 30-32, 37-45, and 48-58 read on the embodiment of Figure 3. The Applicant submits that amended claims 30, 42, 50 and 56 are generic claims and also read on the non-elected species of Figures 1a and 2. The Applicant further submits that claims 33-36, 46 and 47 contain limitations necessarily searched with the examination of the remaining claims in the application. Therefore, no serious burden is placed upon the Examiner to examine

claims 33-36, 46 and 47. As such, restriction is improper per MPEP §803. Thus, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal or modification of the restriction requirement to permit prosecution of claims 33-36, 46 and 47.

Having addressed all issues set out in the Restriction Requirement, the Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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